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**The Committee say in their report:**

Although in the north the thermometer in the winter season registers low temperatures, the cold is much more bearable than are far higher temperatures in countries where there is humidity in the atmosphere. There is said to be little or no difference between the climate at Lesser Slave Lake and that at Edmonton, 250 miles to the south. The Chinook winds blow as far north as Fort Providence and for 21 days during last January it was not necessary to wear overcoats there. West of Peace River Crossing, stockmen must feed their cattle about seven weeks in winter but eastward the snow is deeper and cattle have to be fed a little longer. At Fort St. John on the Peace River they often sow wheat in March and last year began cutting the wheat on the last day of July.

The pioneers in these northern regions are looking forward hopefully to the time when railroads will give them an outlet to markets. Evidence was adduced as to the great extent and possibilities of the inland waterways in the Mackenzie basin. A few steamboats have been plying for years on the longer stretches of the Mackenzie, Peace, Liard and Athabaska rivers, and also on Lake Athabaska and Great Slave Lake. The testimony that by the construction of two stretches of railroad, altogether about 20 miles long, an uninterrupted water and rail route of 3,000 miles may be provided, seems worthy of official investigation.

The Committee presented conclusions for the consideration of the Government to the effect that a railroad connecting existing lines with Fort Churchill on Hudson Bay would open up a large tract of country well fitted for settlement, as well as afford an additional outlet for the products of the West; that to determine the resources of the cultivable land of this district and its forest and mineral wealth, exploring parties qualified to report on the geological formations, soils, timber lands and navigation should be sent out; that although wheat and other cereals ripen as far north as Fort Providence (61° 30' N.), travel and settlement there have clung to the waterways, so that knowledge is limited to comparatively narrow strips of territory, and the Committee, therefore, cannot report as to the extent of the wheat-bearing belt in the Peace River and Mackenzie River basins. Neither is it clearly established whether the arable quality of the lands throughout the whole extent of these two river basins is uniform, as the evidence covers only a small part of the region.

The photographs show grain fields, timber, prairie, potato fields, a flour mill, a gas well, ox-cart transportation, settlements, etc., and a wide variety of information is recorded on the maps.

**Botanische Reisestudien von der Spanischen Mittelmeerküste mit besonderer Berücksichtigung der Litoralsteppe. Von Dr. M.**

**Rikli.** viii and 155 pp., 20 Photographic Illustrations, 11 Figures in the Text and Index. Fäsi & Beer, Zürich, 1907. (Price M. 5.20.)

Dr. Rikli is Docent and Curator in the Polytechnic at Zürich. Accompanied and assisted by some of his colleagues and students, he spent the spring months of 1905 and 1906 in the botanical study of the Mediterranean coast of Spain from Catalonia in the northeast to the steppe lands of the southeast. As they wandered through the heaths and steppes, the forests, the *huertas* or garden lands and other cultivated areas and the palm oases of these coast lands, a wonderful variety of wild and cultivated growths was recorded. The finely illustrated book describes the manifold types of vegetation found on the long littoral. The value of the work is largely enhanced by the history it contains of previous explorations of a similar nature, and most of all by the conventional signs prefixed to each botanical name, indicating whether the plant is merely local or extends through the Mediterranean area or is also found in Central Europe or in the East, as in

Arabia, Mesopotamia, and Persia. Due attention is also given to cultural features and the people in these coastal lands.

**The Ethno-Geography of the Pomo and Neighbouring Indians.**

**By S. A. Barrett.** 332 pp., Glossary, Bibliography, and Maps. University of California Publications in American Archæology and Ethnology, Vol. 6, No. 1. The University Press, Berkeley, Cal., 1908.

The territory occupied by these Indians lies immediately north of San Francisco Bay and extends about 130 miles north and south and 100 miles east and west. Reaching from the coast line to the Sacramento River, it lies chiefly within the Coast Range. Previous to the white settlement this territory was inhabited by Indians speaking seventeen dialects, representing five linguistic stocks: the Pomo, Wuki, Athapascan, Wintun, and Moquelumnan. The Indians live in villages.

The chief purpose of Mr. Barrett's investigation was to establish the boundaries of the Pomo linguistic stock, determine the number of dialects, their relationships and territorial limits and the locations of ancient and modern villages and camp-sites; also, to examine the topography and natural resources as a part of the study of the various phases of aboriginal culture. Much travelling and field work were necessary, as the Pomo now living, and also the Indians of other stocks, are collected in widely separated villages. Vocabularies were taken from as many individuals as possible.

The results of the investigation are prefaced with a description of the geography, climate, flora and fauna of the region, the state of culture of the inhabitants, and the history of exploration and settlement there, the work of the California Missions, the American occupation, and the influence of white settlement upon the Indians. The section on Linguistics deals with language relationships and the dialects and vocabularies of each of the tribes. Two hundred pages are devoted to descriptions of the geographical divisions of the tribes, the modern villages, and old villages and camp-sites. The glossary gives Indian terms from which place names were derived. A large map shows in colours the territory of the Pomo linguistic stock and the adjacent territories of other linguistic stocks with the dialectic subdivisions and village and camp-sites. A smaller black map shows the southern territory of the Wintur stock with villages and camps.

With the settlement of California the habits and mode of life of the Indians were gradually changed. The missionaries gathered them at the missions to instruct them in the new faith, and Indians were gradually persuaded to adopt Spanish dress and manners and to speak the Spanish language. This study of their older life and speech is the seventeenth publication of the University of California in American Archæology and Ethnology.

**Die Uganda-Bahn in ihrem Einflusse auf die Eingeborenen. Von**

**Alfred Kaiser.** 16 pp. Sonderabdruck aus den "Mitteilungen der Ostschweiz. Geograph.-Commerc. Gesellschaft" in St. Gallen.

About eleven years ago the author, whose specialty is economic geography, had an opportunity to study the Bantu, Nilotic and Negroid tribes and the nomads of the steppes living along the proposed line of the Uganda Railroad. When he revisited British East Africa last year, he was much impressed with the changes observable in the native population. For seven weeks he travelled with a small